

Questions for Discussion

God Is Never Late; He's Seldom Early; He's Always Right On Time

By Stan Toler

Chapter 1: Do What You Can, and God Will Do the Rest

1. What problem or problems in your life have you hoping for a miracle?
2. What do you think the author means by saying that the solution to our problems is in Jesus' hands, not ours?
3. When Jesus multiplied loaves and fishes to feed five thousand people, He began with what one small child offered. What do you bring that Jesus could use to do something amazing?
4. How difficult is it for you to trust Jesus during crisis situations? Why?
5. What action will you take this week to show that you are relying on God to provide for your needs?

Chapter 2: When You Pray for Rain--Wear a Raincoat

1. Noah is an example of faith because he believed God's promise without proof. Which of God's promises do you have the most trouble accepting by faith?
2. Name some biblical heroes of the faith who have inspired you. What makes their stories meaningful?
3. The author lists several characteristics of "believe-it" faith (see pg. 35 and following). Which do you find the most compelling? The most challenging?
4. When your faith begins to waver, what biblical promises can you lean on to reinforce your faith?
5. What situation in your life requires faith? Are you ready to trust God fully in that situation? Why or why not?

Chapter 3: When You Have a Wedding, It's a Good Idea to Invite Jesus

1. Jesus performed his first miracle at a wedding. What reasons does the author list for why it is important to have Jesus present at major transitions in your life?
2. What practical difference can it make when Jesus is present in your life during times of either crisis or celebration?
3. In what ways can you invite Jesus to be “present” with you in a spiritual sense?
4. What role does faith play in your relationship with Jesus? What roles do prayer and Scripture play?
5. What is the next major life event that you anticipate? What can you do to ensure that Jesus is present with you there?

Chapter 4: No One Is Immune to Problems--Even the Lion Has to Fight Off Flies

1. What are some of the problems, large or small, that you currently face on your faith journey?
2. Describe the effect that facing difficulties or frustrations has had on your spiritual outlook.
3. The author lists affirmation, forgiveness, peace, and protection as helps that God provides for us on the journey. Which is most important to you right now? Why?
4. List some of the biblical promises of God that might apply to your current situation.
5. What will you do today to seek God's help or protection for your situation?

Chapter 5: Don't Wait for Your Ship to Come In--Swim Out to Meet It!

1. What situation in your life has you feeling desperate right now?
2. Describe a time when you asked for God's help but did not receive it in the way you expected. What effect did that have on your willingness to trust Him?

3. The author describes the importance of having the right attitude in seeking help from God. Describe that attitude.

4. How do you know that God is fully trustworthy? How do you know that He is fully able to help you?

5. What is the next step you need to take to receive God's help for your situation?

Chapter 6: Don't Wait for the Hearse to Take You to Church

1. How would you describe the current state of your relationship with God?

2. According to the author, why is Jesus Christ the key to our relationship with God?

3. Based on this chapter, make a list of actions you could take to improve your relationship with God.

4. The author asserts that our relationship with God can get better when times are tough. Do you agree? Why or why not?

5. Have you trusted Jesus Christ for your salvation? Are you willing to do so today?

Chapter 7: Grab All the Gusto Before You Die

1. What situations tend to make you impatient? Are you ever impatient with God?

2. Why do you think God normally works in our lives through a process rather than providing instant results?

3. List some of the benefits that can result from living in the moment rather than focusing solely on the destination.

4. What biblical promises can you recall that demonstrate that our future is securely in God's hands?

5. What action can you take this week that will increase your ability to wait patiently for God's timing?

Chapter 8: Get Ready for Eternity--You're Going to Spend a Lot of Time There

1. The author recalls the story of the rich young ruler (see Matthew 19). Describe this man's attitude about life and about eternity.
2. In what ways is your attitude similar to the young man's? In what ways is it different?
3. Why do you think it is so tempting to "earn" salvation? Why do you think God has made this impossible to do?
4. Money often accurately reveals a person's ultimate values. What else can be an indicator of spiritual health?
5. Are you certain that you are prepared for eternity? Based on this chapter, how can you have that certainty?

Chapter 9: When You Get to the End of Your Rope, There's Hope

1. Recall a time when you were in need of forgiveness. Describe the emotions you felt.
2. Why do you think human beings are often so quick to accuse others and so reluctant to offer forgiveness?
3. In the story of the woman caught in adultery (see John 8), the woman was obviously guilty, yet Jesus quickly forgave her. Why do you suppose He did so?
4. Based on this chapter, how can you obtain forgiveness from God?
5. Is there something for which you need forgiveness? Is there someone whom you need to forgive? When will you take action on these needs?

Chapter 10: Don't Grab the Steering Wheel While God's Driving

1. What problem are you currently facing that seems to be "disastrous trouble"? Describe how it is affecting your life.

2. List some biblical promises that convince you that God is in control, regardless of your circumstances.

3. List some biblical promises that convince you that God is always good, regardless of your circumstances.

4. Based on this chapter, list some practical ways of seeking God's help in times of trouble.

5. What action can you take this week that will increase your ability to trust God patiently? When will you take it?
